TECHNICAL NOTES

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
Boise, Idaho

TN WATER QUALITY NO. 2 March 23, 2000

The attached document, "A Procedure to Estimate the Response of Aquatic Systems to Changes in Phosphorus and Nitrogen Inputs", is provided for the use of field office staff and partners to evaluate the sensitivity of a waterbody to changes in nutrient inputs.

File this in the Water Quality section of the Technical Notes, Section VI of the Technical Guide.

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C.
20013-2890

October 21, 1999

NATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 190-0-2

SUBJECT: ECS – WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

ATTN: State Resource Conservationists
State Conservation Engineers

Purpose. To transmit, "*A Procedure to Estimate the Response of Aquatic Systems to Changes in Phosphorus and Nitrogen Inputs*".

Expiration Date. October 1, 2001.

The attached document, "*A Procedure to Estimate the Response of Aquatic Systems to Changes in Phosphorus and Nitrogen Inputs*", is provided for the use of field office staff and partners to evaluate the sensitivity of a waterbody to changes in nutrient inputs. Each State is being provided sufficient copies for the Department of Agriculture Service Centers and other field offices.

The guidance document provides an easy-to-use assessment procedure to evaluate the likely response of a waterbody to increases or decreases in the loading rate of nutrients. It supports the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) revised nutrient policy by providing an optional methodology that States could incorporate into their Phosphorus Index risk rating methodology. It also includes educational material and provides limited management recommendations that may be provided to landowners.

This document was produced as a result of a collaborative effort between the NRCS, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Oregon Graduate Studies Institute.

Filing Instructions. File this document in Section I of the Field Office Technical Guide. At a future date we will reissue this document as part of the forthcoming National Water Quality Handbook.

Contact. For additional information, please contact Bruce Newton, Water Quality Team, National Water and Climate Center at (503) 414-3055 or bnewton@wcc.nrcs.usda.gov.

Marc Safley
for
DIANE E. GELBURD
Director
Ecological Sciences Division

Attachment (separate cover: AO – 1 each)

DIST: AO